

Applicant(s): S. Jayaraman  
Application No.: 10/696,174  
Examiner: S. Gherbi

### Amendments to the Claims

1-51. (canceled)

52. (New) A stent preform for implantation in a body lumen comprising:  
an elongated metallic core;  
an outer sheath disposed about the core, the outer sheath including a therapeutic agent;  
and  
caps disposed on the ends of the outer sheath thereby encapsulating the core.

53. (New) The stent preform of claim 52, wherein the therapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of cyclosporine A, imatinib mesylate, curcumin, and rapamycin.

54. (New) The stent preform of claim 52, wherein the therapeutic agent is disposed within pores of the outer sheath.

55. (New) The stent preform of claim 52, wherein the core is formed of shape-memory alloy.

56. (New) The stent preform of claim 52, wherein the outer sheath is formed of a polymeric material.

57. (New) The stent preform of claim 56, wherein the polymeric material is biostable.

58. (New) The stent preform of claim 52, further comprising a release mechanism disposed over the outer sheath.

59. (New) The stent preform of claim 58, wherein the release mechanism is a bioabsorbable

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polymer.

60. (New) The stent preform of claim 52, wherein the therapeutic agent is coated on the outer sheath.
61. (New) The stent preform of claim 60, wherein a release mechanism is disposed over the therapeutic agent.
62. (New) The stent preform of claim 52, wherein the outer sheath includes two therapeutic agents.
63. (New) The stent preform of claim 62, wherein the two therapeutic agents are cyclosporine A and rapamycin, imatinib mesylate and rapamycin, or curcumin and rapamycin.
64. (New) A method of treating a vascular disease of a patient with the stent preform of claim 52, the method comprising:  
determining a prevalent disease process in the pathology of the vascular disease;  
selecting the therapeutic agent to treat or prevent the prevalent disease process, the stent preform including the therapeutic agent; and  
implanting the stent preform in the patient to treat the vascular disease.
65. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein implanting the stent preform includes implanting a plurality of stent preforms.
66. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the plurality of stent preforms are interlaced to form a stent.
67. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein the therapeutic agent is selected from the group

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consisting of cyclosporine A, imatinib mesylate, curcumin, and rapamycin.

68. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein selecting the therapeutic agent includes selecting two therapeutic agents.

69. (New) The stent preform of claim 68, wherein the two therapeutic agents are cyclosporine A and rapamycin, imatinib mesylate and rapamycin, or curcumin and rapamycin.